

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES THE CREATION OF 858 JOBS FOR NAVASSA
JDIG Helps Bring Major Boat Builder to Brunswick County

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Brunswick Corporation will begin manufacturing boats in Navassa, creating 858 jobs and investing \$51.2 million during the next five years. The project was made possible in part by a Job Development Investment Grant.

“We are proud that Brunswick chose North Carolina as the best location for these jobs,” Easley said. “Our state has a boat-building heritage dating back more than 200 years. Brunswick’s decision shows that one of the industry’s premier companies recognizes our state offers both an experienced workforce and opportunities to make sure those workers have continued training so businesses can grow and succeed.”

Brunswick is acquiring the Rampage Yachts boat building facility in Navassa. The jobs created by Brunswick will provide employment opportunities for area residents that are consistent with the area’s environment and community needs. While the pay for these jobs will vary depending on skills and responsibilities, the overall average wage for all the new jobs is \$31,293 a year plus benefits, which is higher than the county average of \$30,576.

“We are pleased to be expanding Brunswick’s presence in North Carolina, where we already have several manufacturing facilities,” said Dustan McCoy, Brunswick’s chairman and chief executive officer. “With its maritime heritage, skilled marine workforce and hospitable business climate, our partnership and presence in North Carolina are highly valued by Brunswick.”

McCoy said the ample space and deep water access of the Navassa facility will allow his company to meet the growing demand for boats 45 feet and larger. Brands the company plans to produce at the plant include Meridian Yachts as well as Bayliner and Maxum cruisers.

Brunswick Corporation, which is headquartered outside Chicago, employs more than 27,000 people worldwide with total net sales in 2006 of \$5.7 billion. Brunswick makes pleasure boats, Mercury Marine engines, Life Fitness equipment and Brunswick bowling and billiards equipment as well as operates 100 family bowling centers.

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